

January 15, 2002

Attorney General Ashcroft  
US Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Ave.  
Washington DC 20530

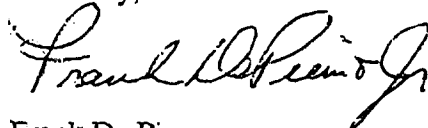
Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

This letter is so that I may go on record as supporting the settlement reached between the Microsoft Corporation and the Department of Justice. I am glad to see that the three years of litigation is over; my only hope is that there will be no further litigation against Microsoft at both the state and federal levels.

The proposed settlement has teeth, and Microsoft is not getting off as easy as I'm sure they had wished. However, the terms of the agreement are fair, and they will help the IT industry become much more competitive. Microsoft has agreed not to strike back at companies that produce, ship, or promote software that competes with Windows. The competitors will now be free to make a profit without worrying about the reprisal from Microsoft.

I am all in favor of this settlement. America's economy needs help, and this settlement is it. I hope that you can convince Tom Reilly, our State Attorney General to see that.

Sincerely,



Frank De Piano  
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